

I am writing in support of SB857A to protect our natural resources, our beautiful river and its shores, as well as our properties. I live on the river and witness the boating activity all year long in the Newberg Pool. We own a power boat, paddle boards and a kayak that we responsibly use and enjoy. But when heavy boats used for wake surfing, that become even heavier by filling their ballasts for the sole purpose of generating large wakes, traverse the Newberg Pool on the Willamette River, only the wake surfer and those in the boat may enjoy the thrill while those of us around them who are fishing, swimming, paddle boarding, kayaking or canoeing are swamped by the large wave created by those wake surfing boats. Not to mention the damage inflicted on our docks requiring expensive repairs and the erosion of our shores that cannot be repaired. The river is simply not wide enough for the large wakes to dissipate before hitting people and property nearby. Unfortunately, the boat companies that manufacture these boats and those that can afford these large boats are also the same people that can afford to pay lobbyists to convince legislators to veto SB857A. But please consider the majority of your constituents who wish to have the simple pleasures of swimming, fishing, paddle boarding, canoeing and kayaking on the Willamette

For the sake of the people and for preservation of our beautiful river, I urge you to please vote to pass SB857A. Thank you for your consideration.